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REPORT OF THE SOUTH COMMISSION

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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LUXEMBOURG
(on behalf of the States Members of the European Community)

[Original: English]

1. The European Community and its member States welcomed the initiative of the Non-Aligned Countries to establish the South Commission. They support many of its recommendations, while having difficulties with some others.

2. The European Community and its member States find it encouraging that the authors in a frank and realistic way have approached a number of areas and subjects like democracy, participatory development, population policies, human resources development and the role of women in development, which so far in international forums often did not receive the public attention that they deserve. The basic values shared in the countries members of the Community concerning democracy, human rights and market-oriented economy are finding increasing recognition throughout the world. The Community and its member States also welcome the growing convergence of thinking on issues like environmental protection, sustainability, market forces and entrepreneurship. The people of many countries can progressively benefit from those changes in the political, social and economical life. In many areas the conclusions of the South Commission confirm the progress and the consensus achieved in the convergence of perceptions at recent international conferences such as last year's eighteenth special session of the General Assembly, the Second United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries and the latest sessions of the Trade and Development Board. In accordance with these perceptions, the members of the Community would have welcomed that the report recognizes more clearly the growing differentiation between developing countries.

3. The Community and its member States share the views of the analysis and the conclusions of the report on the problem of military expenditures in developing countries. They also support the conclusions on corruption including that "in the last resort, the effective functioning of democratic systems is the best safeguard against corruption".

4. The Community and its member States emphasize the importance of the debt problems of developing countries, and are convinced that a reduction of the debt level is a necessary element in supporting adjustment and reform policies in the highly indebted countries and in the poor countries.

5. In their aid and cooperation policies, the Community and its member States support sound economic and structural policies, which, in the long run, will improve the ability of these countries to service their remaining debts. It is their view that the implementation of adequate economic policies and reforms by the developing countries must remain at the centre of any debt strategy, and that the essential objective to achieve is not only to provide sufficient external financing but to support and promote a balanced endurable growth process including through trade liberalization and enhanced economical cooperation. In the future, the financial needs of many developing countries are likely to continue growing, in particular for the least developed countries. The aid efforts of the European Community and its member States have very substantially been extended and reinforced during the recent years

for all regions of the South. The international aid efforts need, however, to be sustained and increased. It is their belief that it is not only the question of the quantity of foreign assistance that should be addressed in this respect. An important issue relates to the possibilities to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the available resources. In this context it is important to improve domestic financing of growth by developing countries and in this connection they welcome the conclusions on this issue in the report of the South Commission.

6. On the question of South-South cooperation, the European Community and its member States share the view that development aid efforts in favour of the most needy countries of the South should be supported also by those countries of the South that have made considerable progress over the last years.

7. On the international monetary issues, the European Community and its member States would like to point out that macro-economic policy cooperation among the main industrialized countries has led to positive results during the recent years. The coordination has focused on improving exchange rate stability and after the experiences of the 1970s, efforts have been made and pursued to establish the credibility of monetary policies.

8. The Community and its member States cannot share all the conclusions and recommendations dealing with trade and development. They do not reflect always actual developments which have been taking place in the international trade and the trading system. They could also have given more attention to the GATT. As far as goes the relation between environment and development, the thinking on this issue has made considerable progress during the last few years. Hopefully this will culminate in a meaningful and action-oriented outcome in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in 1992. They found that the issue of environment and development could have been considered more extensively in the report of the South Commission.

9. The presentation of the report of the South Commission has been somewhat overshadowed by the events in the Gulf, and the Community and its members States are looking forward to further discussions at the second regular session of the ECOSOC.

SWEDEN

[Original: English]

1. The Swedish Government welcomes the report of the South Commission, The Challenge to the South. it contains a most valuable analysis of issues of great relevance to the South, and also of great relevance to the North, in this increasingly interdependent world.

2. The "challenge" to the South is brought out very clearly in the report. It focuses on appropriate and effective policies to be pursued by the South for self-reliance and people-centred development, mobilizing the strengths of the people of the South.

3. It is also explicit about the shortcomings in the policies of many parts of the South. The final paragraph of the report eloquently summarizes the need for a stronger "commitment to democratic values, respect for fundamental rights - particularly the right to dissent - fair treatment for minorities, concern for the poor and underprivileged, probity in public life, willingness to settle disputes without recourse to war". Certainly this is a demanding challenge to the South by the South Commission, and one to be lauded and supported.

4. As has been said by others, the challenge to the South implies also a challenge to the North, and to the world as a whole. At the invitation of the Swedish Prime Minister, Ingvar Carlsson, political leaders from all over the world gathered in Sweden on 22 April for the Stockholm Initiative on Global Security and Governance.

5. This initiative builds on the independent international commissions of the 1980s, the Brandt Palme and Brundtland Commissions and also on the South Commission. Several of the South Commission's members were present in Stockholm, among them the Commission's Chairman, Julius Nyerere, and Sonny Ramphal, who also helped draft the document of the Stockholm Initiative, "Global responsibility in the 1990s".

6. We would like to see in this document and in this initiative a response, wholly supported by the Swedish Government, to the challenge posed by the report of the South Commission.

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

[Original: English]

1. In pursuance of United Nations General Assembly resolution 45/195 of 21 December 1990 regarding the report of the South Commission, in which Governments and the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system were invited to submit their views on the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the South Commission for consideration during the second regular session of 1991 of the Econmic and Social Council, the United Republic of Tanzania wishes to submit the following views.

2. The South Commission report provides an objective and pragmatic analysis of the development issues of particular interest to developing countries in accordance with General Assembly resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, containing the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, as well as the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade 1991-2000 contained in General Assembly resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990.

3. The South Commission's vision of development as people-centred makes the report relevant to the Charter of the United Nations, whose principles, among other things, call for the employment of international machinery to promote the economic and social advancement of all peoples, as well as to

General Assembly resolution 45/178 C on the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development.

4. The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania thus welcomes the report and recognizes it as an important contribution to North-South dialogue and South-South cooperation for development.

5. As a contribution to North-South dialogue, the report has extensively reviewed a variety of issues which for decades have dominated the unfinished multilateral agenda in the major areas of concern such as money and finance, trade and development, debt, food and agriculture, environment and science and technology.

6. The report's recommendations on these issues require concrete action by relevant organs, agencies, bodies and organizations of the United Nations system. In this regard the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania is appreciative of the action taken by the High-level Committee on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries during its seventh session of inviting the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in collaboration with the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation, to prepare a report on the extent to which the South Commission's recommendations on technical cooperation among developing countries can be implemented.

7. In this connection, the United Republic of Tanzania welcomes and supports the idea of convening North-South summits to discuss agreed agendas about the management of the global economy as it is through high-level political commitments that global economic reforms can be achieved.

8. Regarding South-South cooperation, the call to maximize development capacities at the national, subregional and regional levels, including national and collective self-reliance, is an impetus for stimulating the revitalization of past commitments made in the three major international action plans on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries, namely:

(a) The Non-Aligned Movement Action Programme for promoting collective self-reliance through the strengthening of economic cooperation among the non-aligned and other developing countries (Algiers, September 1973), later known as The Colombo Action Programme for Economic Cooperation (Colombo 1975);

(b) The Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1978;

(c) The Caracas Programme of Action, adopted by the High-level Conference on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries held at Caracas in May 1981.

9. The success achieved so far in implementing these action plans has been modest and in this connection the recommendations of the South Commission report in these areas should provide a fresh dynamism towards South-South cooperation endeavours.

10. The contribution of the United Nations in this matter can be further enhanced by strengthening the United Nations Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries. To achieve the objectives stipulated in recommendation 34 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, which calls for strengthening the capacity of the United Nations Development Programme for the promotion of, and support to, Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and as has recently been reiterated by the High-level Committee on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries.

11. The recommendations of the report of the South Commission for enhancing North-South and South-South cooperation are based on realistic and practical approaches. It is thus hoped that the proposed South secretariat will get support from the entire international community, particularly from the developing countries.